



Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities

Office of Communications & Legislation

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News Release

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Giant Eagle Named Champion of Opportunity

Food, fuel and pharmacy retailer awarded the Champion of Opportunity Award in recognition of its commitment to, and leadership in, integrating individuals with disabilities into Ohio's workforce

COLUMBUS, OH – Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) today recognized Giant Eagle as a Champion of Opportunity for its commitment and leadership in integrating individuals with disabilities into Ohio's workforce. The food, fuel and pharmacy retailer was presented with the Champion of Opportunity Award, part of OOD's annual business recognition program, during a brief ceremony at the Britton Parkway Giant Eagle in Hilliard.

"Giant Eagle has been an outstanding partner in integrating Ohioans with disabilities into the workforce," said OOD Executive Director Kevin L. Miller. "Ohio's economy, and its communities, is stronger because of their commitment and leadership."

The Champion of Opportunity Award honors companies that have gone "above and beyond" in their commitment and who serve as statewide examples of what it means to provide quality employment opportunities and increased independence for individuals with disabilities.

"For more than 30 years Giant Eagle has provided career opportunities for people with disabilities," said Senior Director and Human Resources Business Partner for Market District and GetGo Jeremy Shapira. "Like all of us at Giant Eagle, these Team Members help create an inclusive and diverse working environment, and are relied upon to meet the needs of our customers. We thank all of our Team Members for bringing the Giant Eagle experience to life every day, and we thank Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities for this recognition."

The Opportunity Awards were created to highlight Ohio companies committed to providing employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities. The awards recognize companies at various levels: from those who have just begun to recruit, hire, and retain individuals with disabilities to those with a proven track record of integrating individuals with disabilities into their workforce. For more information and a listing of the 2014 award winners please visit <http://www.ood.ohio.gov/Employers/Opportunity-Awards>.

OOD is committed to engaging and educating Ohio businesses on the benefits of recruiting, hiring and retaining individuals with disabilities. Its business relations model works directly with Ohio companies to understand their workforce needs, quickly match job seekers with specific openings, and provide needed assistance and training.

OOD is the state agency responsible for assisting individuals with disabilities to live independently, gain meaningful employment or receive disability benefits through the Social Security Administration. www.ood.ohio.gov

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